जाने के बारे में जिला प्रशासन सहित सभी संबंधित प्राधिकारियों को यथासमय सूचित कर दिया गया था ।

Promotional Avenues of Extra Departmental Employees

*335. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:
SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to increase the promotional avenues for Extra Departmental employees; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) the number of Extra Departmental employees promoted to Group 'D' posts and to the cadre of Postmen during each of the last three years and so far during the current year; and

(c) the total number of ED employees in the country as at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BIR BAHADUR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The information is as under:—

Group 'D'

1985	*1986*	*1987*	*Up to August, 1988*
421	328	1997	956

Postman

1985	*1986*	*1987*	*Up to August, 1988*
442	471	2062	727

(c) Total number of E.D. Employees in the country at present is about 2,98,000.

Development of Hydro-electric power Potential

*336. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Hydro-Electric Power Corporation has proposed a new time frame for the accelerated development of hydro-electric power potential in the country;

(b) if so, whether this stand was taken to make the hydro-electric projects competitive with the thermal power stations;

(c) whether the existing time frame of 15 years will be reduced to about 9.5 years; and

(d) if so, whether this will be possible if the latest method of investigation and construction and timely action for various clearances including forest and environment are adopted; if so, what measures Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) to (d) For reducing the gestation period of hydro-electric projects, National Hydro-electric Power Corporation Ltd., had, *inter alia*, suggested acceptance of the concept of two-stage clearance of hydro-electric projects for investment decision, namely, the pre-construction works and the main project works. Government have accepted the suggestion, in principle, in respect of Central Sector and Joint veture (between Central Government and one or more State) Hydro-electric projects. Sanction for the pre-construction works of Uri Hydro-electric Project has already been accorded under this Policy.